

November 20, 2003

The Honorable Sam Brownback
United States Senate
303 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Brownback:

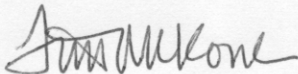
We are writing to express our strong support for your bill, S.1621, the "Consumers, Schools and Libraries Digital Rights Management Awareness Act of 2003". Your legislation represents a balanced and reasonable approach to the growing concerns over protection of consumer rights in the Internet space.

S. 1621 ensures that producers of digital media products must first obtain a valid subpoena or court order in a pending civil lawsuit before a service provider is required to provide any personal subscriber information. This fundamental requirement applies when the conduct that triggers the subpoena is based on customer activity that does not take place on the service provider's system or network. We commend you for offering this balanced solution that enables service providers to assist private parties in enforcing their rights while at the same time providing protection for all Internet users' privacy and safety.

We also support your preference for functional requirements and self-certification processes rather than government-mandated technology solutions in the digital marketplace and commend you for protecting consumers from deceptive practices in the labeling of copy-protected digital media products.

Thank you for advancing the debate on these important consumer protection, privacy and digital rights issues.

Sincerely,



Tim McKone
Senior Vice President
Federal Relations
SBC Telecommunications, Inc.



Peter Davidson
Senior Vice President
Verizon Government Relations
Verizon Communications